

Major Elements of DWQ Construction General Permit

This document contains the major elements of the recently-revised North Carolina Division of Water Quality (DWQ) Construction General Permit (NCG01) with emphasis placed on those elements that differ from the previous permit (expiration on August 2, 2011). Since the summary list below cannot contain details of every change, the complete Permit should be used to assure full implementation. See: <http://portal.ncdenr.org/web/wq/ws/su/construction>

1) Ground Stabilization*

Site Area Description	Stabilization Time Frame	Stabilization Time Frame Exceptions
• Perimeter dikes, swales, ditches and slopes	7 days	None
• High Quality Water (HQP) Zones	7 days	None
• Slopes steeper than 3:1	7 days	If slopes are 10' or less in length and are not steeper than 2:1, 14 days are allowed.
• Slopes 3:1 or flatter	14 days	7-days for slopes greater than 50 feet in length
• All other areas with slopes flatter than 4:1	14 days	None (except for perimeters and HPQ Zones)

* "Extensions of time may be approved by the permitting authority based on weather or other site-specific conditions that make compliance impracticable." (Section II.B(2)(b))

The major change in the Permit from the previous one is the shorter times to apply ground stabilization such as mulch, wheat straw, or grasses. The NC laws and rules relating to the Sediment Act require, in most places, ground stabilization within 21 days. Based on the new EPA requirements and 9-months' work with a permit advisory group, CTAG, the Division and EPA-developed permit, now contains requirements for ground cover within 14, and in some places, 7 days.

2) Building Wastes Handling

- No paint or liquid wastes in stream or storm drains
- Dedicated areas for demolition, construction and other wastes must be located 50' from storm drains and streams unless no reasonable alternatives available.
- Earthen-material stockpiles must be located 50' from storm drains and streams unless no reasonable alternatives available.
- Concrete materials must be controlled to avoid contact with surface waters, wetlands, or buffers.

3) Discharges to Federally-listed Waters

- Requirements are the same as in previous permit.
- The permit allows reduction from the 20 acre minimum if the Director of DWQ determines that other BMPs provide equivalent protection.

Major Elements of DWQ Construction General Permit- Continued

4) Inspections
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same weekly inspection requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same rain gauge & inspections after 0.5" rain event
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspections are only required during "normal business hours"
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspection reports must be available on-site during business hours unless a site-specific exemption is approved.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Records must be kept for 3 years and available upon request.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronically-available records may be substituted under certain conditions.
5) Implementation of New Permit Conditions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects permitted under the previous permit can continue to follow the previously-permitted conditions.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete applications received prior to August 3, 2011 can follow conditions of approved application.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applications received after August 2, 2011 must comply with new permit conditions.

6) Conditions in Erosion & Sedimentation Control Plans*
Designation on the plans where the 7 and 14-day ground stabilization requirements of the NPDES permit apply
Designation on the plans where basins that comply with the surface-withdrawal requirements of the NPDES permit are located.
7) Building Wastes Handling
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No paint or liquid wastes in stream or storm drains
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dedicated areas for demolition, construction and other wastes located 50' from storm drains and streams unless no reasonable alternatives are available.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earthen-material stockpiles located 50' from storm drains unless no reasonable alternatives available.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concrete materials must be controlled to avoid contact with surface waters, wetlands, or buffers.
8) Sediment Basins
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlet structures must withdraw from basin surface unless drainage area is less than 1 acre.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use only DWQ-approved flocculants.

* In order for the E&SC Plan to satisfy the conditions of the Construction General permit, it must identify areas where the ground stabilization requirements apply and the location of the basins where the surface-withdrawal requirements apply.